

## THE HAMILTON TIMES

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1908.

## ABUSE OF A PRIVILEGE.

The Tory organs seek to make a first-class grievance of Hon. Mr. Oliver's objection to allowing original documents given out to members to remain indefinitely in their hands, instead of being returned within a specified time to the public files; and they hint that they merely make the issue the excuse for further obstruction.

A glance at the situation will be enlightening. Since January, no fewer than 355 returns have been brought down in response to requests made in Parliament. The preparation of these returns involves an immense amount of labor, and when they include original documents, there is added the danger of the loss of some of them from the files, and resultant legal complications. That this danger is not an imaginary one is shown by the fact that a good many documents obtained by members of the Opposition, who were allowed to keep them out beyond a specified time, have never been returned. Hon. Mr. Foster, one of the most clamorous against the rule as to returning these documents, was forced to admit this session that he had obtained from the files last session, original documents of importance which he had not yet returned, and all he could do was to say that he would try to find them and have them replaced on the files. The importance of keeping the files intact has always been recognized, and, attached to every original return furnished to members, is this reminder: "This sessional paper is the property of the House of Commons and must not be taken from the precincts of the House. The member receiving the same for reference or information is requested to return it to the journal office at his earliest convenience." In spite of this notice and the fact that members are well aware of their duty in this regard, many returns have been taken from the House, and kept for six or eight months; in some cases they have never been returned. Mr. Lafarge, M. P., obtained one such return and kept it for 261 days, and when he did return it, a number of pages were found to be missing. Our local sleuth, Mr. Barker, properly kept one of these returns 108 days. Mr. Ames, one of the leaders of the "standards," has taken out many returns, and five, at least, he has never returned. Many others of the members exhibit a like disregard of their duty in the matter; and although the Liberals are desirous of giving them every opportunity consistent with the proper transaction of business to familiarize themselves with the public files, the abuse of the latitude allowed the Opposition has been so gross that it is necessary to insist on a closer adherence to the rules of the House, as to the return of documents.

The question of returns is being used by the Opposition in the absence of a party policy which might be presented to the people to create an impression that they are fighting a desperate battle to uncover scandals. The party press has been coached to co-operate and to shriek "Blockers!" and "Corruption-ists!" every time that some absurd and irregular demand is made upon the capacity of the Departmental clerks to prepare the enormous quantity of matter asked for at short notice. An illustration of this was furnished in the case of Hon. Mr. Brodeur's Departmental estimates when the offices were too small to accommodate a staff of clerks large enough to get out in time the returns demanded. Asking for returns which involve great expense to the country seems to be an amusement of the Opposition. Often they are never used; often they are used but for fishing purposes, and are sought in the vague hope that something may be stumbled upon which can be so distorted and misrepresented as to make excuse for insinuations of irregularity. We have the case of Mr. Borden himself, who was rather taken aback when his complaints about returns, not being as promptly prepared as he would wish, was met with the statement of the vast labor thus placed upon the clerks in the Departments, and he was reminded that a return asked for by himself made up about 1,000 typewritten pages. To the astonishment of Parliament, the Opposition leader admitted that he had quite forgotten ever asking for the return! The particular return asked for from Mr. Brodeur's Department, and which the Opposition members seemed to think—at least their actions indicated that—should have been furnished as if all the Minister had to do was to turn a tap, involved an immense amount of searching of the files, and about 1,600 pages of typewriting, besides many original documents, which were included to facilitate the work and save longer delay. These are but typical of what goes on daily. They illustrate an abuse which is closely allied to crime in its wastefulness, and it is on this abuse that the Opposition hopes to found its plea for public favor.

## A POLICY OF PRODIGALITY.

The main Provincial estimates for 1908 have been brought down, and they go to show that this is the growing time in expenditures, the increase over the main estimates of last year being close upon \$1,000,000. The amount brought down on Friday was \$7,501,875, which does not include Whitney's \$9,000 salary and the \$42,000 for his Ministerial colleagues. Last year's original estimates were for \$6,519,131, but there were supplementary estimates of \$516,201, making a total of \$7,035,332. Of course, there were some balances unexpended, the total of which was \$630,288, but on the other side of

the account there was expended no less a sum than \$1,300,131 under special statutes and warrants, and which was not voted by the House as part of the estimates. The disposal of this large sum of money in this semi-secret method is something which demands consideration. When these extraordinary items of expenditure—extraordinary in their manner of expending and accounting—are considered, it will be found that last year's bill exceeded \$7,700,000. If then, we may look for half a million in supplementary estimates this year, and another \$1,300,131 expenditure, which the House is not to consider under the head of estimates, the expenditure of 1908, even allowing a few hundred thousands for unexpended balances, may be expected to reach about \$9,000,000. This is frenzied financing indeed, and furnishes the explanation of the Cabinet's eager hunt for subjects for increased taxation.

We had been led to expect that the estimates would disclose a determination on the part of the Cabinet to do something for education, and especially technical education. There are some small increases, but nothing further has been done for technical education. This is a disappointment. When such a prodigious expenditure is being incurred, some provision might have been made for dealing with the matter of such vast importance to Ontario. The total increase for education is \$100,396, a small sum when compared with the enormous increase in the expenditures.

The outstanding features of the estimates are the great increases in the burdens placed upon the people, and the amounts proposed to be expended. The hunt for taxes is keen, and experience shows that seldom is a tax once levied done away with. The burdens of the people are being annually increased, and the cost of managing the Province's affairs goes up steadily. We have had good times, and the pressure hath not been much felt. This has encouraged the spenders at Toronto to greater lavishness. Some day the people will make up to the drain of their resources which this prodigious policy involves.

## MUTUAL LIFE OF CANADA.

The thirty-eighth annual report of the Mutual Life of Canada will be found in this issue, and the figures are a good study for those interested in sound and safe life insurance. The popularity of this progressive Canadian company is shown by the fact that it wrote \$7,081,402 new business in 1906, a gain of almost 20 per cent. over the previous year. It has a total of over \$51,000,000 insurance in force, and a surplus of \$1,500,000, which is also a gain of over 20 per cent. for the year. The company has total assets of over \$12,000,000, and its securities are all of the gilt edged sort.

Mr. C. B. Linton is general agent of this company for Hamilton, and has a fine central office in the Bank of Hamilton building.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

N. B.—New Brunswick.

We bank on the school bank.

How is the new Home for Incubables fixed for fire escapes?

It surprises us to see that Ald. Farrar does not come to the rescue of his friend, Mr. Barrow.

Gen. Stoessel is still being kept in suspense. But he should be thankful he has not yet been suspended—by the neck.

You should see the big pile of broken stone Mr. McMenemy's "unemployed" men have cracked. It covers a whole field at the head of Victoria avenue.

The Hamilton Radial Railway having now been declared to be for the general advantage of Canada, that declaration may be for the general advantage of the company.

The cheap pauper labor of Europe United States capitalists enticed across the Atlantic brought with it the horde of anarchists who are now plaguing the country.

Toronto Board of Control is going ahead with the installation of a 21,000-gallon steam pumping plant. Steam continues to hold its own pretty well as a waterworks power.

A pretty fight is going on just now between the Stewart and Armstrong factions for supremacy in Con. Club affairs. The ward chairmen are all at sea, and the password is changed almost nightly.

The British embargo upon foreign imports of hay will not affect Canadian shipments. It applies only to countries where foot and mouth disease exists. Canada has, this year, but little hay for export.

The Spectator says "no man pays taxes from choice." Our contemporary overlooks the fact that in the case of protective taxes a good many of us pay them because of the other fellow's choice.

Let the aldermen be careful to look far ahead in making terms as to the street railway accommodation of the future. That is a part of the negotiations of the first importance to the people. Make no mistake here.

Carnegie's gifts to libraries to date amount to \$40,005,022. Perhaps, however, his donations for the purpose of encouraging scientific research, although

but a small fraction of that sum, may yield as beneficial results to mankind.

But surely the aldermen did not expect Engineer Sothman to make a report on the Beach pump tenders without remuneration. If his report was worth the price he now asks, \$400, they would hardly think of asking him to do the work gratis.

What a row would have been raised by these men who now complain that Engineer Barrow was not a "strong man" who would do things whether the Council would have it or not, had the Engineer dared to so exceed his duty as to attempt to dictate to them in matters of municipal policy?

The number of "serious offences" recorded in England and Wales for 1906 was 82,264 as compared with 113,330 in 1897. That is a cheerful showing. The number of offences against police regulations, however, has increased by more than 300 per cent., while convictions for drunkenness have increased from 75,859 to 211,493.

The Trades and Labor Council objects to the plan to abolish the system of weigh scale clerks. The matter is one which we think is worthy of further consideration before being acted upon by the Council. The system in use tends to public confidence. Will that proposed to be adopted in its place equally serve the purpose?

Mr. Aylesworth's new election law provides that no ballot may be rejected by reason of any marks placed thereon by a deputy-returning officer. That provision will prevent a repetition of the disgraceful travesty of justice by which Mr. Sealey was cheated out of his seat, and the electors of Wentworth were disfranchised.

In Winnipeg the taking over of the telephone lines by the Government was quickly followed by an increase of rates. In Fort William, whose telephone system has been the pride of municipalizers, an advance in rates is among the probabilities of the immediate future, the system having a considerable deficit in its accounts. In the ultimate, people must pay for what they get, if not out of one pocket, then out of the other.

Toronto Saturday Night hardly knows what to make of Foster's apparent ascendancy in the ranks of the Opposition at Ottawa. Borden's absence from the House during the exhibition of mufish obstruction puzzles it. It says "it is curious" that Borden was away, and it declares, "if Mr. Foster made this grandstand play without Mr. Borden's knowledge, it was unfair treatment to his chief." Our contemporary has evidently no very high idea of Postorian loyalty. Perhaps it remembers the nest of traitors.

Speaking of the withdrawal of the charges in the "thin red line" cases by the Manitoba Attorney-General, at the Winnipeg assizes, Le Canada thus very succinctly exposes the judicial outrage attempted:

After the last Federal elections three officials were accused of having struck out, with red ink, the names of certain Conservatives from the voters' lists, and this incident has furnished material for many violent speeches by the Conservatives. But there was absolutely nothing in the accusation, and it, and the threatened prosecution, served only the purpose of the Manitoba Government in seeking to slander the Liberals.

The St. Catharines Star-Journal says: "St. Catharines seems to be getting the 'secret session' malady that has, judging from reports, struck a number of Canadian cities of late." Our contemporary objects to this do-it-in-the-dark method of public bodies, and thinks publicity is always best. Sometimes, perhaps, in cases like that of the negotiations between the aldermen and the Street Railway Company, a quiet conference may accomplish more than an open meeting, especially when there is a tendency to talk to the gallery. But the public should always be kept informed as to what transpired at these meetings.

In spite of Premier Whitney's somewhat remarkable statement on the power question at the Tory banquet, it is now alleged that Major St. Aubyn, representing the British bondholders, made to Whitney the offer of the Electric Development Company's generating plant and transmission line on precisely the terms which Mr. Mackenzie has accepted, and which are regarded as exceedingly favorable. Why did Whitney reject it? Did he think he had encompassed the ruin of the company? Why did he keep the offer a secret from Toronto? Was he afraid the city would profit by it? And why did he indulge in those equivocal statements at the banquet?

Last week there was a struggle in Parliament over the question whether public documents having reference to the import department for which the money is to be voted were withheld. The Opposition called for the documents. The Government insisted that the votes should go through without them—Mail and Empire.

That is merely the repetition of a threadbare falsehood. No item, about which returns had not been brought down, was sought to be passed. The Opposition's obstruction lacked any such excuse. Because the force of clerks in the Department could not get returns 1,000 pages long, referring to one item, prepared in time, the obstructionists refused to allow that item to stand, and proceed with the rest of the Departmental supplies. Their course was almost a crime against their country, and it was a grave technical blunder.

Samuel Gompers has called the A. F. of L. Executive for March 16

## OUR EXCHANGES

Open the Window.

(Toronto News.)

Much was at one time heard of the "open door" as an approved commercial policy in the Far East. If Earl Grey is to be trusted, the "open window" is equally important from a sanitary standpoint.

Saved Gamey.

(Toronto Telegram.)

It is easy for Hon. J. P. Whitney to forget that he profited by the sacrifices of the one paper that was not afraid to save R. R. Gamey from becoming the Dreyfus of Ontario.

Should Stay on the Job.

(Toronto Globe.)

An exchange makes the point that as Mr. Borden is paid a handsome salary as leader of the Opposition it is as much his duty to remain at his post in Parliament as it is the duty of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to lead the House.

Fireproof Schools.

(Toronto Star.)

Fire drill in schools is good so far as it goes, but it must not be made an excuse for faulty construction of buildings. Safety must be sought mainly in construction. School buildings should not be more than two stories in height, and be of fire-proof or slow-burning material.

Lemieux's Great Act.

(Toronto News.)

The fact that Great Britain and the United States have sent special representatives to the Lemieux Labor Act, and the further fact that the French Government is to despatch a commissioner hither for the same purpose, constitute a remarkable acknowledgment of the worth of that measure.

A Condition Not Desired.

(Governor Hughes, New York.)

The people of this country do not desire Socialism, even as an experiment. They do not propose to pass through a dreadful "quarter of an hour" of revolutionary changes to satisfy themselves of those imperfections of human nature of which they are already well apprised, and which make impossible the permanent constitution of society in accordance with socialistic theory.

New Publications.

Lost in the Bottomless Pit—A Working Hypothesis for the Solution of every Problem of Life and Mind. By J. Howard Cashmere, Editor of the Balance Magazine. Published by The Balance Publishing Co., Denver, Colo., Illustrated. Price, cloth, \$1. postpaid. There have been a number of books written to further the belief in the immortality of the soul, but the majority of writers upon this subject rely upon the phenomena of spiritualism to demonstrate their theories. The author of this book, not only does not use the physical phenomena of modern spiritualism to convince his readers of the soul's immortality, but abandons the "gaseous being hypothesis" of the spiritualists as illogical and unnecessary to account for genuine psychic phenomena, and posits that the real ego, or soul, is an immortal being of atom size functioning through an inner lobe of the brain.

How Is It Here?

(Parkhill Gazette-Review.)

Reading the accounts of the recent theatre and concert fires reminds us: That we use coal oil lamps for foot-lights in Parkhill.

That when we have a moving picture show, the machine is between the audience and the only means of exit.

That if an explosion occurred the audience would be compelled to pass the fire to reach the exits.

That, in a panic, a Parkhill crowd would act just like any other crowd.

That the people seeking to escape from the Town Hall gallery would be stopped by the crowd on the ground floor and pressed forward by the crowd behind with the usual results.

That we have fire escapes on any of our public buildings.

That if you jumped from the Town Hall windows you would stand a fair chance of getting hurt.

That Parkhill has as yet escaped a horror of this kind, and that it seems to take for granted that some kind of special Providence watches over us and protects us, despite our lack of precaution.

FROG'S CURIOUS HOME.

One Grew Up in a Fox Terrier's Stomach. New York, March 8.—The Herald has received the following cable dispatch from London: Here is a real, glib, dog story that is worth telling, because it possesses the merit of being purely English. It is exciting, and it is a warning to the neighborhood of Essex. In Weddell there lives a fox-terrier which of late has been very ill. He appeared to have been poisoned. No medicines availed to make him cough his tail again. At last the veterinarian in attendance, having tried all the remedies, advised that there was nothing left but desperate measures, and the dog was given a powerful emetic. The cause of his ailment then appeared in the shape of a frog. Of course, no terrier could or would swallow alive a grown frog. The only possible explanation is that he must have absorbed a baby frog in a drink of water, and the infant seems to have settled down to make the best of a bad business until released by veterinary skill.

GAVE AWAY HIS PROPERTY.

Philanthropist Will Spend Last Days in Poorhouse.

Worcester, Mass., March 8.—At the age of 83, without a penny in the world and without a relative to turn to for aid, Dr. John Wellesley Sill, a well-known philanthropist and cancer specialist, applied to the overseer of the poor here, having been in dire distress for some time past, and was sent to the State poorhouse at Tewksbury today.

He is a civil war veteran, and previous to coming to this country served for some years in the British army. A year ago he predicted his death within six months, and in the expectation that his prediction would be realized gave away all his property in Wales and in Toronto, and all his money to friends and charitable institutions, keeping enough to live for six months. He did not die, and his supposed friends whom he had aided wouldn't do anything for him.

## Thirty-Eighth Annual Report

TO JANUARY 1st, 1908, OF THE

## Mutual Life of Canada

HEAD OFFICE - WATERLOO, ONT.

## CASH ACCOUNT

INCOME		DISBURSEMENTS	
Net Ledger Assets, December 31st, 1906	\$ 9,890,477.70	To Policyholders	
Premiums:		Death Claims, \$317,776.50	
First year	230,636.63	Matured Endowments	178,785.00
Renewals	1,519,322.77	Surplus	92,138.68
Annuity	3,450.00	Surplus	80,805.19
	1,753,409.40	Annuities	10,714.93
Less Re-assurance	20,367.52		\$ 680,220.30
Interest	1,733,041.88	Expenses, Taxes, etc.	383,981.33
Profit and Loss	509,240.02	Balance Net Ledger Assets, December 31st, 1907	11,069,846.22
	1,288.25		
	\$12,134,047.85		\$12,134,047.85

## BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Mortgages	\$ 5,756,070.85	Reserve, 4%, 3 1/2%, and 3% standard	\$10,019,563.89
Debentures and Bonds	3,593,965.84	Reserve on lapsed policies on which surrender values are claimable	4,171.22
Loans on Policies	1,410,130.87	Death Claims unadjusted	39,350.00
Premium Obligations	22,554.21	Present values of death claims payable in installments	38,506.93
Real Estate (Company's Head Office)	30,875.79	Matured Endowments, unadjusted	1,693.45
Cash in Banks	280,494.29	Premiums paid in advance	12,737.18
Cash at Head Office	1,505.19	Due for medical fees and sundry accounts	10,936.75
Due and deferred premiums (net)	319,277.97	Credit Ledger Balances	25,730.82
Interest due and accrued	241,554.91	Surplus, December 31st, 1907	1,503,719.68
		(Surplus on Government Standard of Valuation \$1,897,358.28.)	
	\$11,656,409.92		\$11,656,409.92

Audited and found correct.

J. M. SCULLY, F.C.A., Auditor

GEO. WEGENAST, Managing Director.

Waterloo, January 29th, 1908.

New Business written (gain over 1906, \$1,577,855) ... \$ 7,081,402  
Insurance in force (gain over 1906, \$4,179,440) ... \$1,091,848  
Surplus (gain over 1906, \$300,341) ... 1,503,719

Booklets containing full report of the Annual Meeting, held March 5th, 1908, are being published and will be distributed among Policyholders in due course.

C. B. LINTON, General Agent, Hamilton, Ont

## ANCASTER

A meeting in connection with starting a canning factory in Ancaster was held in the town hall on Thursday, the 6th inst. The proposition was made that if fifty acres of townships were guaranteed the factory would commence operations. It is understood that thirty acres were promised at the meeting, and since then a balance has been made up. One grover living below the mountain said he would send his tomatoes to Ancaster, as he could make more trips per day.

The telephone company is quietly securing subscribers. The greater number of the business men of the township have subscribed, and the farmers are now being secured.

There was a large rally of Liberals on Thursday evening in the town hall. Mr. Sealey was present. Business in connection with election affairs was attended to. Old Ancaster should give a Liberal majority of at least 350 at the coming elections, which will place the county on the Government side. The Conservatives have not gained any ground since showing their hand at the annual meeting of the Agricultural Society.

The fruit prospects are good in this locality, and the winter wheat and strawberries are expected to come out of their winter sleep looking well, as there has been a good covering of snow. The strawberry crop is not expected to be a large one this year, as with the exception of a few plantations they had a light stand last fall.

The assessor has begun his annual duties, and is doing what should have been done before—hunting up many people who have incomes, but do not pay their just proportion of the taxes. Our township fathers should do their best to preserve the cash surplus standing to the credit of the township, as it has been steadily disappearing in the last few years. An overdraft and interest added to our already heavy taxes will not be relished by the township people.

The Loder estate is paying the bequests to the different churches. The Church of England receives \$1,127; St. Andrew's Presbyterian, \$563.50, and the Methodist Church the same as the latter. The Presbyterians propose erecting a shed for the convenience of out-of-town members. This has been a long-felt want.

The Lenten services have begun in St. John's Church. They are well attended.

## VICTORIA AVE. LITERARY.

The regular meeting of the Victoria Avenue Literary Society was held on Friday evening in the Sunday school room. A very evenly contested debate, "Resolved, that we derive more benefit from art than we do from nature," was won by the negative by a small margin. The debaters were: Affirmative, Messrs. Newlands and McCullough and Miss Patterson; Negative, M. Edwards, L. Houlding and Miss Hoover. The following programme was given: Recitation, Miss Hoover; song, Mr. Newlands; impromptu recitation, Mr. A. Devine; one-minute remarks from audience; critic's remarks. The next meeting, on Friday, March 20, will be set apart for "Irish night." A good programme will be provided.

## LAXA-FOOD

For indigestion and constipation. No drugs of any kind; nothing but plain, wholesome food, manufactured in Hamilton by special process and special machinery. Endorsed by reputable physicians. Ask your grocer or order direct from manufacturers.—A. W. Maguire & Co.

## BEGGARS WHO ARE CHOOSERS.

London Workhouse Inmates Have an Easy Time.

London—Certain boards of guardians in Greater London have gained for themselves a worldwide reputation for the lavishness with which they spend the public's money upon the housing, feeding, clothing and entertaining of the poor. In some workhouses the pauper is a pampered person who enjoys his life too well willingly to go back to the outside world and battle for an independence. He is fed with a liberality which usually manifests itself in the rotundity of his figure; his medicine is not always the nauseous concoctions so offensive to the delicate palate, but frequently the juice of the grape; and lest he should become bored by lack of variety in his surroundings there are billiard rooms, reading rooms, with the latest periodicals, dramatic entertainments and concerts for his diversion.

This state of affairs has brought forth the professional pauper, an individual who selects his workhouse with fastidious care and an epicurean eye upon its table. Before entering any institution he makes himself familiar with every detail of its management, the character of its master, the quality of the food and the nature of the work required of him. His expert knowledge of the regulations tells him just where he can creep through those which threaten his comfort. Work, of course, is as distasteful to him as the periodical bath, and if he cannot evade it it is not for want of effort. According to the rules all able bodied paupers are expected to work. It is surprising how the "professional" manages to remain an invalid.

The London pauper is not backward in sticking up for his rights, whether real or imaginary. If he thinks a master is imposing upon him he does not hesitate to complain to the board of guardians, which probably takes his part. The other day the paupers of Shore-ditch took it upon themselves to remedy an evil. They requested that tea should be their beverage for breakfast. The master persisting in his opinion that grog was better for them, they raided the kitchen and poured the offending oatmeal down a drain.

The paupers of Lambeth went even further. A few days ago the inmates of the workhouse there presented a memorial to the board of guardians asking that they might be paid for their work. One of the guardians pointed out that the work was merely child's play, while another said that the board could not pay wages, but could give extra tobacco allowances. The matter was referred to a committee, which finally decided to recognize the arduous labors of the memorialists by increasing their supplies of tobacco.

A clever satire upon the comparative luxury in which the London pauper lives has been written by George Gloriel in the form of a play, entitled "The House," which at present is meeting with great success at the Court Theatre here. It is in two acts—the first, depressing melodrama; the second, delightful comedy.

The scene of the first act is a squalid garret occupied by a family on the verge of starvation through lack of employment. There are four of them—Joe Creek, a carter, his wife, his daughter and the grandfather. The old man is too aged and infirm to withstand the privations like the others, but he resolutely sets himself against the entreaties of his fellow sufferers to accept the relief the poor laws offer. To take such course would bring a stigma upon the name of a family which had hitherto kept its escutcheon unblotted by the acceptance of such relief. But starvation at last overcomes his pride and he is forced reluctantly to become the first

pauper of the family. He goes off with tears in his eyes and sobs in his throat.

In the next act Joe Creek has found employment, prospects have brightened and there is much joy at the knowledge that the old man will now be able to discard his workhouse uniform and return to the bosom of his family. The grandfather comes to see him. They find a remarkable change, not only in his appearance but also in his principles. Healthy, well fed and well clothed, he is wholly satisfied with his condition. When they break the joyous news that he can return and share their humble home as of yore he is shocked at the suggestion.

His present lot is so comfortable that his former life, even at its best, is unbearable in comparison. Return to the old precarious existence? Why, the mere thought of having to climb the long flights of stairs upsets his case. In the workhouse he would take the elevator. Finally he dilates upon the luxuries enjoyed by the pampered pauper with such effect that his hearers determine to abandon their hard struggle for a bare living, join the grandfather in the workhouse and except the many good things to be had for the asking.

The author is accused by interested officials of gross exaggeration in his description of the way in which the poor laws are administered, but those acquainted with recent revelations of workhouse mismanagement in Greater London will recognize that the picture he paints is based upon indisputable facts.

## PUSS TO THE RESCUE.

Brought a Rabbit to Hungry Philadelphia Cave Dwellers.

When the first settlers came to Philadelphia, of course there were no houses ready for them, says Sel, in The Cat Journal. So a good many of the men dug small caves in the bank of the river. They would dig several feet into the bank, then build walls of sod in front of the little cave. They made the roof by laying branches or trees on top, covering these with rushes from the river and putting pieces of sod on the rushes. The chimney was made of stones, plastered with clay.

These caves were used only until the men had time to cut timber and build the houses they wished.

One of the old families of Philadelphia owns a quaint silver tureen on which is engraved a cat seizing a rabbit. In the early days at Philadelphia Elizabeth Hardy was living with her husband in one of these dug-out caves, while he was building their house. The work went very slowly and Elizabeth often helped her husband. She brought the water to make the mortar for the chimney, and even helped at one end of the saw.

One day she was very tired, for she had helped all the morning. Her husband told her to rest a while and then think about dinner. Mrs. Hardy walked sadly away. Their food was nearly gone